

# The Sports Trail

By WHITNEY MARTIN

NEW YORK, April 15.—(P)—The fourth time-time major league baseball season opens tomorrow, and a survey of the outlook gives rise to the idea:

That the American League schedule makers didn't think much of the chances of the Athletics and Senators as they tried to get those two clubs off the track early to keep them from getting in the way of the real contenders.

That one player missed most by any team will be Dick Wakefield of the Tigers.

That the top National League rookie will be Albert Schoendienst of the Cardinals, whose name will appear in the box score as Sch't.

That Bucky Walters will win 20 games again, and again will stand the Cardinals on their ears.

That Bill McKechnie will get some good games out of that museum of pitching antiques he has lined up, but the Reds will be too weak at the plate to go very far.

That Leo Durocher will play at least 75 games for the Dodgers, but not because he wants to play.

That new Yankee proxy Larry MacPhail, who has been very quiet to date, is due to explode one of these days, but it had better not be in Joe McCarthy's face.

That the Cardinals will be at least six games in front by July 4, but the American League teams will be playing leap frog for first place all season.

That the only thing of pre-war quality will be the umpiring and possibly the managing.

That Joe Medwick will be available to the Giants only at intervals, but that Van Mungo might finally have that good season this year.

That Hal Newhouser and Dizzy Trout will win about 35 games for the Tigers between them.

That Branch Rickey will have to stuff his ears with cotton if the Dodgers get away to a poor start and gradually get worse.

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# ST. LOUIS GETS WRITERS' VOTES ON WORLD SERIES

### 80 Per Cent Of Scribes Pick Red Birds To Win Fourth Straight

By JACK HAND  
NEW YORK, April 15.—(P)—Another all-St. Louis world series was predicted today by the nation's baseball writers who forecast a three-way struggle for the championship in the American League and tougher competition for the Cardinals in the National.

Of 76 scribes participating in the annual Associated Press poll, 61, or 80 per cent, picked Billy Southworth's Red Birds to cop their fourth straight pennant in the senior circuit with Pittsburgh running a strong second.

Detroit and New York in that order were selected as the Browns' leading competitors. Thirty-seven experts, or 48 per cent, favored Luke Sewell's "Cinderella" Boys, who upset the dope bucket last year. The Tigers were given 29 first place votes and 10 went to the Yankees.

The Cards were rated a cinch a year ago and dived up to all promises but the writers wavered among New York, Chicago and Washington before picking the Yanks in the American. The Browns were consigned to fifth place, getting only one flag ballot.

This year, on the basis of eight points for a first-place selection, seven for second and so on down to one for last, the Cards boasted 585 of a possible 608 points. Pittsburgh had 515 but the third place Chicago Cubs got only 399.

It was closer in the American where the Browns received 546 points, the Tigers 534 and the Yanks 469.

J. Ed Wray, sports editor of the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, the only selector to call the 1944 finish right, predicted a second successive Sportsman's Park classic if travel conditions permit a series this fall.

St. Louis, Detroit and New York were the only American League teams to receive pennant votes, but the New York Giants had two in the National and Chicago, Cincinnati and Brooklyn one apiece.

Toughest position to pick outside of the American flag appeared to be fourth spot in the junior circuit, Boston just nosing out Cleveland for the honors, with Philadelphia, Chicago and Washington following in order.

Chicago, apparently expected to get away to a better start under Charley Grimm, was ticketed for third in the National and New York nosed out Cincinnati for the last first-division spot. Boston's Braves drew surprising support but had to be satisfied with a sixth place rating ahead of the Phils and Dodgers, who were almost a dead heat for the basement.

Balsa, the lightest commercial wood in the world, is doing its bit in the war effort in bombers, life saving equipment, combat boats and mine detectors.

# U. S. ON OKINAWA REPULSES ENEMY

### (Continued From Page One)

the central two-thirds of the strategic Ryukyu island just 325 miles south of Japan proper.

The Infantrymen in the south were deadlocked along the "Little Siegfried Line" four miles north of the capital city of Naha for the twelfth straight day amid the fiercest artillery duel of the Pacific war.

Opposition was almost negligible, however, in the rugged northern end, where the first Marine Division under Maj. Gen. Pedro A. Del Valle pressed beyond Momo-hara town on the west and Arakawa on the east.

Maj. Gen. Lemuel C. Shepherd, Jr., Sixth Marine Division, meantime, completed the occupation of the big Motobu peninsula, which just off Okinawa's northwest coast. Japanese on this peninsula counterattacked lightly in mid-week to give the Leathernecks their only sizeable opposition of the campaign.

Japanese fliers struck at American shipping off Okinawa in small force Saturday after two days of desperate assaults by Kamikaze (suicide) pilots who specialize in self-destruction in attempts to crash on picked targets. Nine were shot down Saturday.

The three-day toll for Thursday, Friday and Saturday was at least 265 Japanese aircraft destroyed. The most severe damage inflicted on U. S. forces was the sinking of one destroyer Thursday.

American and British carrier planes raked airfields and towns on Formosa and nearby islands Friday and Saturday. U. S. pilots destroyed seven enemy planes on the ground and damaged 25 others. The British shot down three attacking their task force, and damaged a number aground in sweeps of Formosa hangars, barracks and other installations.

# Superfortress Armada Attacks Japan Again

### (Continued From Page One)

WASHINGTON, April 15.—(P)—An armada of superfortresses returned to Japan today to shower fiery destruction again on the enemy's great industrial cities of Tokyo and Kawasaki.

The latest attack, probably by up to 400 bombers, followed by 48 hours another huge attack on the Tokyo arsenal area. A 5-square mile sector of big and little war plants.

# Nelson, Snead Set For Charity Match

NEW YORK, April 15.—(P)—Byron Nelson and Sam Snead will play their 72-hole charity golf match either May 26-27 or June 2-3, Freddie Corcoran, tournament manager of the Professional Golfers Association, said today.

The first 36 holes probably will be played on a New York course and the second 36 on the succeeding day on a New Jersey course. Neither of the sites have yet been selected, Corcoran said.

It previously had been planned to hold the match on Decoration Day.

# CARDINALS BEAT BROWN NINE, 2-1

ST. LOUIS, April 15.—(P)—The World Champion St. Louis Cardinals salvaged the final game of their city series with the American League champion St. Louis Browns today, 2 to 1, in a pitchers' battle.

Rookies Ken Burkhardt, George Dockins and Sophomore Al Jurisich silenced the Browns' bats and the junior circuit club made only three hits, two by Don Guttridge and one by Pete Gray.

Guttridge scored the Browns' only run in the first inning after he had singled and advanced on a sacrifice by Gray. The Cardinals winning runs were driven in by Ted Schoendienst in the eighth off Red Shirley. Jack Kramer, Nelson Potter and Shirley divided the Browns' mound chores in three inning stints.

The Browns won the series four games to two.  
St. Louis (N) 000 000 020—2 4 0  
St. Louis (A) 100 000 000—1 3 0  
Burkhardt, Dockins, (5), and O'Dea; Kramer, Potter (4), Shirley (7), and Mancuso.

# CABINET CHANGES URGED ON TRUMAN

### (Continued From Page One)

them have changed. The Senate War Investigating Committee, which the new President headed generally credited the two with having done an outstanding job in the war effort.

Secretary of Commerce Wallace probably will stay on if he desires. Mr. Truman often has told friends he did not feel Wallace received just treatment in the move that resulted in Mr. Truman's nomination for Vice President.

But the remainder of the Cabinet members in time may have to find something else to do.

That would mean changes at the Treasury, Justice, Post Office, Agriculture, and Labor Departments.

Robert E. Hannagan, Democratic national chairman, may get one of these. Edward Pauley, Treasurer of the National Committee, is in the picture. Hugh Fulton, former counsel for the Senate Truman Committee, might get one of these posts.

If Mr. Truman follows the recommendations of his own former committee he will consolidate all labor activities under the Labor Department. Secretary Perkins, who reportedly tried to quit when the fourth term began, may not stay on long now.

The divided activities of the Agriculture Department also might be merged by the new President. As it now stands, War Food Administrator Marvin Jones runs most of the show, leaving little for Secretary Wickard to do.

While Cabinet changes can wait, Mr. Truman has some unfilled appointments which will need early attention.

Among these is the job of Federal Loan Administrator. If the new President followed his own inclinations entirely, he might ask Jesse Jones to step back into that post. He also must fill the post of Rural Electrification Administrator, a job for which the Senate turned down Aubrey Williams.

The White House staff of advisers and assistants probably will see extensive changes also. Stephen Early already has planned to step out within a month. There is doubt that Jonathan Daniels will stay long as press secretary.

Harry L. Hopkins and Judge Samuel I. Rosenman are unlikely to continue as advisers and the fate of Donald M. Nelson, a special representative of President Roosevelt, is in doubt.

In India the practise of plastic surgery arose to enable those whose nose tips had been cut off for adultery to correct the mutilation.

# Meyers And Coffield To Clash At Thalian

"A ring plumb full of fighting gals will be the feature at Thalian Hall Friday night," said Bert Causey, local wrestling promoter. Causey added that the girls' tag team matches have been big "box office attractions" all over the United States.

Nell Stewart, a rough and ready Miss from Birmingham, and "Mysterious Miss Red" will cope with Pretty Ann Miller and Violet Valentine.

# ANN CURTIS WINS THIRD NATIONAL SWIMMING TITLE

### San Francisco Marvel Travels 220-Yard Free Style In 2:31.5

CHICAGO, April 15.—(P)—Ann Curtis, San Francisco swimming marvel, today picked up her third individual championship in the Women's National AAU swimming meet as she shook off the challenge of Brenda Hayward.

Miss Curtis, who previously had lifted the 100-yard free style crown from Miss Helser, and then easily defended her 440-yard title, swam the distance today in 2:31.5. Miss Helser pushed her for the first 175 yards, but dropped back after Ann came through with her final "kick" to win by about 10 feet.

In third place was Marilyn Sahner of the Chrysler Plunge, team-mate of Ann's. Betty Lachok of the Texas State Club, Akron, O., was fourth, and Betty Shields of the Women's Swimming Association, New York City, fifth.

Miss Curtis, in addition to successfully defending her 220 and 440-yard titles, and winning the 100-yard crown for the first time, also anchored the victorious 400-yard free-style relay team last night.

Jeanie Wilson, 19-year-old Chicagoan, today broke the American record for the 100-yard breast stroke as she won her first championship in the Women's National AAU swimming meet here.

Miss Wilson, trailing the field at the start, moved into the front in the last 40 yards and barely edged out Patricia Sinclair of the Women's Swimming Association, New York, in the record time of 1:15.1. The old record, 1:15.3 for the event, was set in 1941 by Lorraine Fisher of the Women's Swimming Association, New York, in a meet at Greenwich, Conn.

Jane Dillard Kittelson, representing Vultee Aircraft of Ft. Worth, Tex., one of the favorites in the event, finished third, two yards back of Miss Sinclair.

Clara LaVigne of Olneyville Club, Providence, R. I., who won the 300-yard individual medley event in the meet, was fourth, and Nancy Grubb of the Minneapolis, Minn., A. C., was fifth.

# YANKS REPORTED AT BERLIN GATE

### (Continued From Page One)

The U. S. Seventh Army drove southward to within 15 miles of the Nazi shrine city of Nuremberg, another Bavarian stronghold 40 miles southwest of Bayreuth.

The U. S. First Army fought into Halle, a city of 220,000, at the northwestern gateway to besieged Leipzig, 16 miles southeast.

In the north, the Canadian First Army reached the North Sea in northern Holland in a swift dash that spelled a virtual end to that phase of the lowland battle. But the British Second Army was held in check along its entire front menacing Bremen and Hamburg.

The Ruhr was cut into two small pockets by a junction of the U. S. First and Ninth Armies, whose successes were increasing the estimates of the number of German troops trapped there.

It had been estimated that 150,000 enemy soldiers were cut off in the Ruhr, but 143,349 prisoners already have been removed from the pocket and more were streaming in.

There were few details of Lt. Gen. William H. Simpson's reversal on the Elbe, but the loss of the Ninth Army crossing presented the Allies with the stark realization that the last lap to Berlin may be a hard one.

# Death Of Roosevelt Affects N. Y. Contest

NEW YORK, April 15.—(P)—The death of Franklin D. Roosevelt will affect materially the New York City mayoralty campaign.

Uncertainty had long prevailed whether the President would support Mayor F. H. LaGuardia, should he run for a fourth term, or back the Democratic candidate.

Mr. Roosevelt crossed party lines to declare for LaGuardia in 1941. Several New York City newspapers declared flatly weeks ago that the President was prepared this year to support William O'Dwyer, Kings county district attorney, who lost to LaGuardia four years ago.

The President never disclosed publicly his intentions.

# BUY WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

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# Baseball Opens Season With Memorial Contest In Washington For FDR

### 30,000 Expected To See Yankees And Senators Clash At 3 P. M.

WASHINGTON, April 15.—(P)—Baseball pays its respects tomorrow to Franklin Delano Roosevelt, who frequently befriended the sport, by playing 1945's first major league game as a memorial to him.

Before the New York Yankees and Washington Senators take the field at 3 p. m., an expected capacity crowd of about 30,000 in Griffith stadium will stand for a full minute of silent prayer in memory of Mr. Roosevelt.

Then the game will go on as usual. Baseball's leaders feel that Mr. Roosevelt would have preferred it that way.

All other big league teams wait until Tuesday to swing into the pennant races.

This fourth wartime season, about which there were grave doubts for months, will start under the most unusual circumstances in the game's long history.

The shocking death of this country's only four-term President and No. 1 baseball fan four days before the inaugural game:

Under a new President, Harry S. Truman, an enthusiastic sports fan as Mr. Roosevelt was, and who as Vice-President promised to toss the first ball today—the sudden turn of events now makes his appearance unlikely.

With the game's manpower problems, which threatened its continuance, apparently solved satisfactorily despite continued induction of players into the armed forces at a rapid pace.

There will also be such personal sidelights as:

Clark Griffith, 75-year old owner of the Washington club, beginning his fifty-seventh season in baseball and his thirty-third with the Senators;

Paul Waner, veteran Yankee reserve, celebrating his forty-second birthday anniversary;

George Case, Washington outfielder, and George Stinweis, Yankee infielder, renewing their rivalry for the base-stealing title, which Case held for years before Stinweis grabbed it last season.

The game itself may be secondary to the occasion on which it is played. Both teams have almost the same players who were around last season when the Yankees finished third and the Senators last.

Manager Joe McCarthy, who made a habit of winning pennants in pre-war days, will send Alcy Donald, seasoned righthander, out after today's victory for the Yankees while Manager Ossie Bluege of the Senators has "Dutch" Leonard, veteran knuckleballer, primed.

The probable lineup: Washington Stinweis, 2b ..... Case, cf ..... Myatt, 2b ..... Derry, rf ..... Kuhel, 1b ..... Lindell, cf ..... Cliff, 3b ..... Etten, 1b ..... Bink, rf ..... Savage, 3b ..... Torres, cf ..... Garbar, c ..... Powell, lf ..... Buzas, ss ..... Evans, c ..... Donald, p ..... Leonard, p

# News Of Roosevelt's Death Sweeps Okinawa

OKINAWA, April 13.—(Delayed)—(P)—News of President Roosevelt's death swept Okinawa today like wildfire and Marines and soldiers paused in prayer for their late commander-in-chief. During the prayers-an air raid alert sounded. Not a Marine stirred.

Navy Lt. Lawrence R. Schmieder, Cincinnati, Ohio, First Marine division chaplain, conducted memorial services and prayed "May the Lord of Heaven and earth grant him eternal light and eternal rest."

Typical comment among the Marines was as follows: "The only other time I felt like this was when Will Rogers died. The President seemed sort of close to me, just like Rogers."—Pvt. John Henley, 530 Clifty St., Harrison, Tenn.

# False Armistice Noted By Navy Men In Pacific

OKINAWA, April 15.—(P)—The men aboard American warships in the western Pacific and even carrier plane pilots far out over the ocean celebrated a false European Armistice report today. It took several hours for the bubble to burst.

A rumor that snowballed out of control caused the premature celebration. The excitement was traced back to a garbled news message regarding reduced German resistance of the garbled report, sent queries crackling back and forth. Radio units ashore misinterpreted the queries and repeated them as facts. A battleship picked up one of the shore reports and radioed it happily to ships in general.

It is estimated that at least one-third of those who now die of cancer could be saved if they could be diagnosed and treated during the early stages of the disease.

# Beanpole Hurlers Set To Play For Crackers

ATLANTA, April 15.—(P)—A couple of young beanpole pitchers, Righthanders Kenny Deal and Barney Cook, are down for starting roles with the Atlanta Crackers this year.

Deal, 17, right off the high school campus at Gastonia, N. C., was a sensation in junior league baseball, while Cook 23, up from the Flint, Mich., sandlots, is back in organized baseball after a three-year lapse. He was with Warren, O., of the Penn State League in 1940 and '41.

The Tar Heel rookie, 6-foot-3 and 165 pounds, once fanned 21 of 24 hitters and has pitched a "good many" no-hit, no-run games. He says he can't recall exactly the number. In his first exhibition

# YANKEES DEFEAT 'DEM BUMS', 7-5

BROOKLYN, April 15.—(P)—In what was the final tune-up of the training season for both teams, the Yankees walked off with 7 to 5 victory over the Dodgers today before a paid attendance of 14,513.

The Yankees made only four hits but scored six runs in the seventh inning when Tom Seatz, who had just relieved Hal Gregg, walked five batters in a row. The passes and a double by Oscar Grimes put the Yankees in front.

The Dodgers bunched three of their five hits off Elmer Singleton in the sixth, and scored four runs to break a 1 to 1 deadlock.

Walter Dubiel, who worked the first five frames for the American Leaguers, gave up two hits and a run, the tally resulting from a triple by Eddie Basinski and Luis Olmo's outfield fly. In the fifth the Yanks tied the score when Snuffy Stirnweis homered off Gregg.

New York (A) 000 010 600—7 4 0  
Brooklyn (N) 001 004 000—5 1 0  
Dubiel, Singleton (6), Gettel (7), and Garbar; Gregg, Seats (7), Lombardi (7), and Sukerforth.

# Britain Shifts Hess To Prevent Possible Attempt At Liberation

LONDON, April 15.—(UP)—Rudolf Hess, once deputy-fuehrer of Germany and now wallowing in melancholia with the collapse of the German army near, is a here-today and gone-tomorrow war prisoner of Britain.

Closely guarded since he bailed out of a Messerschmitt on a Scottish peace-mission, on a reported peace-mission, bushy-eyed Hess now is being moved from one hide-out to another, it was understood today.

The objective is to prevent fanatical Nazi war prisoners who might escape from attempting to liberate him, kill him or give him an opportunity to kill himself.

Various types of cancer were recognized and described in 400 B. C. by Hippocrates.

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**MOTHERS DAY**  
SUNDAY, MAY 13TH  
GIVE HER YOUR  
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211 N. 2nd Dial 6318

# Remember When He Squawked at This?



**SISSY STUFF** he called soap and water ten years ago. Today when he comes in off the battlefield, a scrub-up seems as necessary as food itself.

Keeping our men clean takes 15 bars of soap a month per man. Military hospitals, in addition, must have hundreds of thousands more bars to wash the wounded before treatment.

Yet to make just 6 bars of soap takes about a pound of fats. And there are hundreds of other essentials on both the battlefield and home front...like medicines, paints, synthetic rubber, parachute fabrics, explosives and civilian soaps...of which fats are a necessary ingredient. So won't you save every scrap of used fats? Turn them in to your meat dealer; get 2 red points and 4 cents for each pound. Our country is depending on you! This message has been approved by WFA and OPA and paid for by Industry.

**We Must Save More Used Fats!**